

Student Master

Research Project: Designing Your Own Investigation

Planning your project:

- 1. Develop a research question. Then form a hypothesis to investigate.**

Be sure to review your hypothesis with your teacher before you begin.

Research question:

Hypothesis:

- 2. Design a plan to test your hypothesis and answer the research question.**

What do you need?

a) More information:

b) Specific data:

- 3. Go online and get data.**

a) Visit www.dataintheclassroom.org, and find the Water Quality module.

b) Follow the link to “Get Data.”

c) Using the form, select the locations and parameters you wish to look at.

d) Click the “Get Data” button.

- 4. Use the Data Log Sheet to keep a record of the data you select, so you can refer to it later.**

- 5. Collect and organize any additional sources of data.**

- 6. Analyze the data.**

- 7. Draw conclusions.**

Write down what you learned from your investigation. Use your data to help you decide whether your hypothesis is supported. If your hypothesis is not supported, think about other data you might need to collect.

Student Master

Data Log Sheet

As you access online water quality data, keep a record of the parameters and dates you select on this data log sheet. Your data log will help you remember and keep track of the data you have looked at.

National Estuarine Research Reserve: _____

Station	Parameter	Start Date	Duration	Notes